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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

Foreign Language Committee

FLC-028-88
28 September 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members, DCI Foreign Language Committee (FLC)

FROM: [redacted] STAT
Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Minutes of the 17 August 1988 FLC Meeting (U)

The meeting was opened by the Chairman, [redacted], at 1000 STAT
hours. She indicated that there were two items on the agenda, the first being the FLC Annual Report for the DCI; the second, CETA funding. DLI has offered [redacted] for the CETA effort, but FBIS, the contract manager, is constrained 25X1
from accepting funds from outside the Intelligence Community. Moreover, [redacted] STAT
[redacted] Chairman of the Intelligence Producers Council Staff, has indicated STAT
that he might be willing to entertain a request for some funding up to [redacted] 25X1
for FY 1989. Such a proposal should be submitted to him within the next several weeks. Since FBIS is constrained from accepting funding from outside the Community, it might be advisable to give further thought to transferring the program back to the State Department if they are willing to accept it again.

STAT The Vice Chairman, [redacted] commented that funding within the Defense Department for foreign language training, for proficiency pay etc., should be linked to DCI guidance to the Intelligence Community for foreign language capabilities. The Chairman concurred, saying that we need to begin preparing budgetary issues to the DCI via the IC staff. Funding for foreign language training within the military departments is now carried within the General Defense Intelligence Program which is part of the National Foreign Intelligence Program. The Chairman went on to say the the subcommittees have been largely ineffective, and this sentiment was echoed by many of the members.

[redacted] representing the Central Intelligence Agency's Office of STAT
Training and Education, said that the Committee needs to develop an agenda and a well thought out strategy. We need to define our goals and plans and then take the necessary action to carry them out. The Committee requires a new structure and mission statement. Our strategy needs to be defined more concretely.

[redacted] concurred, saying that he has little idea of what STAT
his Research and Technology Subcommittee should be doing and Miss Candice Hunt, representing the Department of State's Foreign Service Institute, agreed that the Committee's mandate must be made more precise. Captain Lorraine Tarpenning, representing the United States Air Force, suggested that the Committee's charter ought to be linked more to HUMINT collection and to this many of the members agreed.

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Commander Barry Leo, representing Naval Intelligence, said that he fails to understand how the Committee operates. One major problem is the competition for Russian linguists from the private sector, according to Miss Hunt. [redacted] agreed that we are in competition with academia and private industry for the services of Russian linguists. STAT

STAT [redacted] noted that we are in a "zero sum game" and that the key issues of obtaining not only Russian but other qualified linguists needs to be addressed. For the START treaty, for example, we will need some twenty-three foreign languages and this will have an impact on intelligence resources.

Miss Hunt remarked that the entire question of pro pay for linguists is under study in the Foreign Service Institute. This is also a concern of other members of the Intelligence Community. Miss Hunt further remarked that the few Russian linguists available have so many opportunities to go to the Soviet Union with private industry that it is virtually impossible for the Government to compete.

[redacted] mentioned knowing a former Air Force intelligence officer who was a professional Russian translator, who was a fluent technical interpreter, had worked on MOLINK, and had a law degree from Georgetown. It was Dr. [redacted] opinion that such individuals exist but that the government would have to offer strong salary incentives to wrest them from lucrative careers. STAT STAT

All members concurred that the mission and functions of the Committee need to be spelled out more concretely.

In conclusion the Chairman provided all members with a draft memorandum she intends to discuss with General Heinz consisting of two separate but related items: The first, funding for INF and START Russian language training; the second, a total immersion program for languages in which the Intelligence Community has identified a need and for which available assets are inadequate. (NOTE: This meeting has now been scheduled for 1 September. Copies of the memo, which is classified SECRET, are being sent under separate cover to all members.)

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1145 hours. (A list of those attending is attached.)

[redacted] STAT

Attachment:
List of Attendees

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